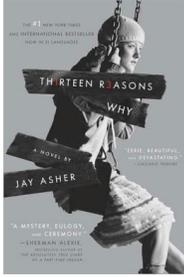


# Books by the Stack



## **Thirteen Reasons Why by Jay Asher**

Clay Jensen returns home from school to find a strange package with his name on it lying on his porch. Inside he discovers several cassette tapes recorded by Hannah Baker - his classmate and crush - who committed suicide two weeks earlier. Hannah's voice tells him that there are thirteen reasons why she decided to end her life. Clay is one of them. If he listens, he'll find out why. Clay spends the night crisscrossing his town with Hannah as his guide. He becomes a firsthand witness to Hannah's pain, and learns the truth about himself—a truth he never wanted to face.

**Why you'll like it:** Gripping. Addictive. Tragic. Riveting.

**About the Author:** Jay Asher was born in Arcadia, California on September 30, 1975. He grew up in a family that encouraged all of his interests, from playing the guitar to his writing. He attended Cuesta College right after graduating from high school. It was here where he wrote his first two children's books for a class called Children's Literature Appreciation. At this point in his life, he had decided he wanted to become an elementary school teacher. He then transferred to California Polytechnic State University in San Luis Obispo where he left his senior year in order to pursue his career as a serious writer.

### **Questions for Discussion:**

1. Rate the book- 1 being the lowest, 10 the highest. Why?
2. What did you like about the book?
3. What would you have liked to see done differently within the book?
4. What did you think of the narration style - the flipping back and forth between the tapes and Clay's perspective?
5. Do you think there's any one specific event that had it gone differently would have changed Hannah's mind, or not brought her to that place?
6. Do you think all of the people on the tape deserved to be there? If not, who didn't and why?
7. Do you think Hannah was selfish in making the tapes? Do you think she had a purpose in making them?
8. What did you think of the book's ending?
9. What do you think the characters will take away from Hannah's tapes? Do you think it will change any of them? If so, for the better or worse?
10. What lessons, if any, did you take away from this book? Do you think this would be a good book for teenagers to read? Why or why not?

*(Questions issued by [whattoexpect.com](http://whattoexpect.com))*

